

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 02285 211839Z

ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 IO-13 FEA-01 AGR-05 ACDA-07

AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01

TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OIC-02 /126 W

-----211850Z 125324 /42

R 201942Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7457

INFO USUN NY 398

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 2285

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE

1. CHARGE AND LOS OFFICER VISITED FOREIGN MINISTRY MAY 19 FOR PURPOSE OF REVIEWING LOS THEMES WITH THE APPROPRIATE MINISTRY OFFICIALS. CENTERPIECE OF VISIT WAS SHOWING OF USIS FILM "TOWARD LOS," WHICH WAS VIEWED BY FORMIN FACIO, VICE-MINISTERS DEL CASTILLO AND JIMENEZ, VARIOUS DEPARTMENT HEADS, AND ADVISER TO FOREIGN MINISTER IN FISHERIES MATTERS, DR. RAFAEL PARIS. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WAS FERNANDO SALAZAR NAVARRETE, COSTA RICA'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UN, AND THE APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE FOR COSTA RICA FOR THE FIRST FOUR WEEKS OF 8-WEEK LOS SESSION TO BEGIN MAY 23. USIS INFORMATION PACKETS ON LOS, CONTAINING BASIC DOCUMENTS AND LATEST RICHARDSON STATEMENTS, WERE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL ATTENDEES. COSTA RICAN OFFICIALS ALL GAVE FILM HIGH MARKS, NOTING IT WAS EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE DIDACTIC TOOL WHICH SUCCESSFULLY EXPLAINED ISSUES AND US POSITION, AND EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR INFO PACKETS.

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PAGE 02 SAN JO 02285 211839Z

2. IN INTERCHANGE WITH SALAZAR NAVARRETE FOLLOWING PRESENTATION, HE MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

--THAT FOLLOWING EVERSEN MEELE GNFN GENEVA, HE DETECTED A CERTAIN SOFTENING OF RADICALISM OF LEADERS OF G-77 COUNTRIES

WITH REGARD TO DEEP SEABED RESOURCES QUESTION. HE AGREED WITH US VIEW THAT HOW THIS MATTER IS RESOLVED IS KEY QUESTION IN NEXT LOS MEETING, AND THAT WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS LOS TREATY WILL DEPEND UPON CONSENSUS ACHIEVED THEREIN REGARDING THIS MATTER. HE EXPRESSED CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM, NOTING THAT ATMOSPHERE FOR RESOLUTION OF THIS TYPE OF ISSUE IS BETTER NOW THAN IT HAS EVER BEEN.

--THAT COSTA RICA IS GOVERNED BY IM-77 CONSENSUS IN LOS MATTERS, BUT THAT COSTA RICA EMPHATICALLY IS A MODERATE/CONSTRUCTIVE MEMBER OF THIS GROUP.

--THAT COSTA RICA AGREES IN GENERAL WITH US VIEW OF PARALLEL ACCESS, AND THAT AREA FOR NEGOTIATION HAS TO DO WITH THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY, AND ITS RELATIONSHIPS TO STATES AND PRIVATE ENTITIES EXPLOITING THE SEABEDS.

--THAT THERE IS CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN US CONGRESS REGARDING THIS PROBLEM, AND THAT IF CONSENSUS IS NOT ACHIEVED ON DEEP SEABED ISSUES, AND A TREATY IS NOT PERCEIVED TO BE IMMINENT, US CONGRESS WILL LEGISLATE IN THIS AREA.

3. SALAZAR ASKED EMBOFF ABOUT NEW ADMINISTRATION ATTITUDES THAT MIGHT ALTER US APPROACH TO SEABEDS QUESTION. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 SAN JO 02285 211839Z

SERIOUSLY EXPRESSED WILL TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM, BUT THAT A GREAT DEAL DEPENDS UPON MODERATE AND CONSTRUCTIVE POSITIONS AND LEADERSHIP IN THE GROUP OF 77.

4. SALAZAR HELD THAT ONCE DEEP SEABEDS ISSUE IS RESOLVED IN PRINCIPLE, MOST OF THE OTHER OUTSTANDING LOS XXX ISSUES WILL FALL INTO PLACE.

5. COMMENT: FERNANDO SALAZAR NAVARRETE AND HIS UN STAFF WILL COMPOSE THE COSTA RICAN DELEGATION AT LEAST FOR THE DEEP SEABEDS PART OF THE LOS MEETING. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS STATED THAT SALAZAR IS MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSON THEY HAVE ON THIS SUBJECT; HENCE NO-ONE IS BEING SENT FROM SAN JOSE FOR FIRST 4 WEEKS. OFFICIALS STATED THAT COSTA RICA MAY AUGMENT DELEGATES FOR ECONOMIC ZONE, SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION, AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES ASPECTS OF THE MEETING LATER ON.  
KILDAY

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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